

19 February 2019

**Our Ref:** RFI 27058

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in Relation to Children's Autism Assessments**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 25 January 2019.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Children's Services and Social Work Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital ([informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net](mailto:informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net)) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

---

**Jane McCormick**  
**Information Governance Assistant**

**Q1. The number of children in your Trust area on the waiting list to be assessed for Autism.**

**Q2. The length of time they have been waiting already.**

A1&2. Table 1 provides a breakdown for month ending January 2019.

Table1

Number of Children Waiting for Assessment (weeks)								
0-4	>4-8	>8-13	>13-18	>18-26	>26-39	>39-52	>52	Total
31	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	46

**Q3. The average length of time a child has to wait to be assessed.**

A3. The wait is 28 days to the first assessment appointment.

**Q4. The above information broken down by age and gender.**

A4. Table 2 provides a breakdown.

Table 2

	3-4 years	5-11years	12-14years	15-17years	Total
Female	7	6	3	3	19
Male	12	11	4	0	27
Total	19	17	7	3	46